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those respective data items.

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REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-20, 22-34, 110-114, 125, 126 and 128-134 remain in this application. Claims 5, 22 and 112 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Also, additional changes have been made to the specification, as to matters of form.

Claims 1, 5, 22, 110, 112 and 125 are independent.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1, 110, 111, 125, 126 and 128.

Claims 5-35 and 112-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 5,555,354 (Strasnick et al.).

Independent Claim 5 is directed to a time-series data display method for displaying accumulated time-series data items, in which first data items associated with a desired time are displayed in a first size, and second data items associated with a time contiguous to that desired time are displayed in a second size different from the first size so that a change of size between the first and second sizes

corresponds to a temporal direction between the desired time and the contiguous time. Also, according to Claim 5, respective sizes of respective data items correspond to intrinsic times of those respective data items.

Claims 22 and 112 are corresponding method and program-product claims, respectively.

In the present amendment of Claims 5, 22 and 112, the feature that the respective sizes of respective data items correspond to intrinsic times of those respective data items, is added. That is, data items having the same size are connected to the same intrinsic time, as described above.

As a result of this feature, it is possible for the user to be informed of a relation in actual ("intrinsic") time when the various data items were accumulated, from the relation in size between the displayed data items.

The recited features are supported by Figs. 3, 7 and 8, for example, in which the rings are nested toward the center of the screen and timed day by day (or with other time intervals as units) toward the past or future. In this embodiment, the size of the icons representing the various data items correspond to respective intrinsic times of those data items -- which in this embodiment means the times at which those data items were accumulated or added to the collection of data items.

*Strasnick* relates, as shown in Figs. 1, 2A and 2B, to a system in which data items having a hierarchical structure are displayed on a screen so that linkages of data times in the hierarchical structure are recognized.

The Office Action states that the Zooming function of the *Strasnick* apparatus corresponds to the present invention recited by Claims 5, 22 and 112. However, even if a difference in size between one data item and another data item in *Strasnick* may be deemed to correspond to a distance between the one item and the other data item, the respective sizes of the respective data item do not represent intrinsic times relating to those data items. That is, even if two data items have the same size as they are displayed in the *Strasnick* apparatus, that does not mean that those data items relate to the same intrinsic time, when the respective data items were accumulated.

For at least this reason, Claims 5, 22 and 112 are each thought to be clearly allowable over *Strasnick*.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the rejected independent claims, discussed above. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims under rejection in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and its entry is therefore believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. In any event, however, entry of this Amendment After Final Rejection, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All

correspondence should continue to be directed to our below  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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